

Docket No. 2002-061R1  
PATENTREMARKS

Claims 1-22 are now pending in the above-referenced patent application. Applicants respectfully request further consideration of these claims, in view of the amendments set forth above and the following remarks.

Acknowledgement

Applicants acknowledge that claims 4-6, 15, 16 and 22 are considered patentable and would be allowed if rewritten in independent form. Applicants submit that claim 22 is in independent form and should be allowed.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) (Liu)

The Office action rejects claims 1-3, 7-9, 12-14 and 17-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,767,968 (hereafter "Liu").

Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections as Liu is not prior art for purposes of an obviousness rejection.

*The Liu Patent Is Not Prior Art Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)*

At the time the invention of U.S. Application 10/689,775 was made, the present application and the Liu patent were owned by or subject to an obligation of assignment to Symyx Technologies. Thus, the Liu patent is not prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) and Applicants respectfully request the rejection be withdrawn.

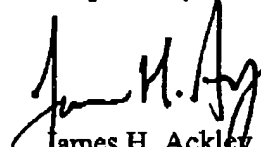
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

Docket No. 2002-061R1  
PATENT

Applicants believe that no further fees are required in connection with the instant amendment. If necessary, however, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any fees required in connection with this application to Deposit Account No. 50-0496.

Respectfully submitted,

Date Submitted: 09/08/05  
James H. Ackley  
Reg. No. 45,695

Symyx Technologies, Inc.  
3100 Central Expressway  
Santa Clara, CA 95051  
Telephone: (408) 720-2598  
Facsimile: (408) 773-4029